

herewith in the name of Bill Fox, et al., U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/120,534, filed February 17, 1999, now pending as U.S. Patent Application No. 09/502,252, filed February 17, 2000. Further information as to the use of the markings on the clamping mechanism (the mesh or membrane) to mark locations of the image tissue is contained in a co-pending International Patent Application No. PCT/US99/21116, and U.S. Patent Application, filed in the names of Roger J. Greenwald and James M. Zavislan, serial number 60/100,176, filed September 14, 1998, now pending as U.S. Patent Application No. 09/786,902, filed March 9, 2001, having priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/100,176 through International Patent Application No. PCT/US99/21116. The purpose of the clamps is to keep the tissue stationary during examination and also provide a means to lightly compress the tissue surface against the window. Alternatively, the clamps may provide tension to pull the tissue surface taut. Holding the tissue with either compression normal to the window or in tension parallel to the window (or both) tends to reduce the surface texture, or corrugation, peak to valley depth.

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-8 and 12-20.

Please rewrite Claim 9 as follows:

9. (amended) An apparatus for imaging excised tissue having a refractive index comprising:
a tray upon which excised tissue is disposed;
means for clamping said excised tissue upon said tray; and
optics directed towards the excised tissue through a portion of said tray in which said tray contains an immersion media having a refractive index matching the refractive index of said excised tissue.

Please add new Claims 21-35:

21. (new) The apparatus according to Claim 9 wherein said clamping means represents one or more fingers capable of holding said excised tissue upon said tray.

22. (new) The holder according to Claim 21 wherein said each of said fingers has a spring biasing the finger to hold said excised tissue upon said tray.